

# **Cathy Tymniak**

## *Biography*

State Rep. Cathy C. Tymniak, a Republican, represents Connecticut's 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District including areas of Westport and Fairfield. She was elected with nearly 60 percent of the vote in a special election on November 2, 1999, to fill the unexpired term of her husband, the late state Rep. Paul M. Tymniak, who had served the district from January 1995 until his death on July 28, 1999. She was reelected to a full two-year term in November 2000, 2002 and 2004.

Rep. Cathy Tymniak serves on the Government Administration and Elections Committee, the Appropriations Committee and the Banking Committee, where she is the ranking member. She formerly served two terms on the Insurance and Real Estate Committee and the Select Committee on Children.

Mrs. Tymniak has broad experience in civic and community service for more than 30 years, with special emphasis on historic preservation, youth and the disabled.

After graduation from Bennett College in Millbrook, NY, Cathy took an active role in local and state Republican politics during the early 1970s. Active in the Connecticut Young Republicans, she met Paul Tymniak at a Young Republicans meeting.

In May 1974, Cathy Carstens married Paul Tymniak, and they moved to Fairfield, Connecticut.

While raising three children, Mrs. Tymniak worked in a number of volunteer and professional positions in Fairfield County, CT.

Mrs. Tymniak has been particularly involved in historic preservation efforts, as an alternate and a commissioner on the Fairfield Historic District Commission. She is a member of the Fairfield Historical Society.

In addition, she has been active in Republican organizations, including membership in the Darien, Westport and Fairfield Republican Women's Clubs and the Darien and Fairfield Republican Town Committees.

Cathy has served on campaign staffs for Republican candidates for Governor, U.S. Senate and Congress.

She also ran an internship program sponsored by Fourth Congressional Republican Women for young people to learn about government in Hartford, CT, and Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Tymniak has also volunteered her time to various organizations. Presently, she serves on the board of the Kennedy Center in Bridgeport, CT, and a member of Kiwanis.

She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Women's Legislative Network of the National Conference of State Legislatures and serves of the Council of State Governments Host Committee.

Rep. Cathy Tymniak currently lives in Fairfield and has three sons, Paul, Christopher and Timothy.

Rep. Tymniak authored legislation to assist troubled Youth in Crisis and increasing the mandatory school age to 18, unless parental permission is given to withdraw or the student has graduated.

This past session, she worked to pass legislation that creates new probate court districts in a pilot program that services children's and teenagers' needs and problems such as truancy. She also sponsored legislation requiring encoding of drivers' licenses to deter underage purchases of tobacco and alcohol.

Rep. Tymniak's strong advocacy of open space included promoting legislation for the purchase of the Kelda watershed lands and co-sponsoring a moratorium on new cables and pipelines to be constructed under Long Island Sound and mandating that new high-voltage power lines be buried underground.

Mrs. Tymniak is a strong advocate of:

Preserving local control of schools, towns and zoning and continuing the fight to repeal expensive unfunded state mandates imposed on our town taxpayers from Hartford

Restoring integrity and ethics to all levels of state government

Demanding more accountability for your hard-earned tax dollars through a common sense approach to spending and tax relief

Making our highways safe and mass transportation more dependable with new rail cars, increased maintenance and better schedules

Enhancing services to seniors and protecting pensions from state income taxes

Improving availability of quality health care for all Connecticut resident plus reform of medical liability insurance so doctors stay in Connecticut

Preserving open space to maintain and protect our environment while keeping a delicate balance between nature and energy needs

Promoting lifelong educational opportunities and an economy with growth for careers

Protecting children and women from abuse and violence

Improving preemptive security at the state and local levels against terrorism

Continuing state support for open space preservation to maintain our towns' unique character into the future.